

Message Text

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SUBJECT: 1ST QUARTER FY 78 CCP REPORT

REF: (A) STATE 061225, (B) CANBERRA 0676

1. EMBASSY APPRECIATES THOUGHTFUL RESTATEMENT OF CCP OBJECTIVES CONTAINED REFTEL A. IN KEEPING WITH SPIRIT OF THIS RESTATEMENT AND PARA 6 OF REFTEL A, EMBASSY WOULD LIKE TO OFFER SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT OF CCP. THESE SUGGESTIONS PERTAIN TO GENERAL STRUCTURE OF CCP AS IT AFFECTS ALL POSTS, AND IT WAS FOR THIS REASON THAT EMBASSY REFRAINED FROM SUBMITTING THEM IN REFTEL B, THINKING THAT THEY MIGHT BE PREFERABLE AS PART OF GENERAL REVIEW OF CCP.

2. SECTION V OF CCP, PERSONNEL RESOURCES ALLOCATION, REQUIRES A BREAKDOWN OF WORKDAYS BY 17 CATEGORIES OF INDIVIDUAL ACTIVITY WITH A SUB-SET OF 11 CAMPAIGNS AND SPECIAL POST EFFORTS. WHILE THESE CHARTS LOOK ATTRACTIVE WHEN COMPLETED, WE DOUBT THAT THERE IS ANY POST IN CCP PROGRAM WHICH DEVOTES THE RESOURCES TO LOGGING ITS ACTIVITIES WHICH WOULD BE NECESSARY TO MAKE SUCH A CHART ACCURATE.

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3. EMBASSY WOULD SUGGEST THAT SECTION V BE GREATLY SIMPLIFIED OR EVEN ELIMINATED ENTIRELY. A MEANINGFUL AND WORKABLE DIVISION MIGHT BE TO HAVE TWO BROAD CATEGORIES: REACTIVE ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL SERVICES AND DISCRETIONARY OR CREATIVE TIME. FIRST CATEGORY COULD BE BROKEN DOWN INTO TWO SUB-CATEGORIES: TRADE SERVICES (BUSINESS CALLERS, WTDR'S, ADS'S, ETC.) AND ECONOMIC SUPPORT ACTIVITIES (AVIATION NEGOTIATIONS, ANTARCTIC NEGOTIATIONS,

COMMODITY CONFERENCES, ETC.). SECOND CATEGORY COULD ALSO BE BROKEN DOWN INTO TWO SUB-CATEGORIES: CCP CAMPAIGNS AND NON-CAMPAIGN ACTIVITIES. COMPONENTS OF EACH OF SUB-CATEGORIES WOULD NOT BE BROKEN OUT (I.E., AVAILABLE TIME WOULD BE DIVIDED INTO FOUR DIVISIONS INSTEAD OF SEVENTEEN AND ELEVEN).

4. SIMILARLY, SECTION VI, FINANCIAL RESOURCES SCHEDULE, HAS A COMPLEX BREAK-DOWN, BY ACTIVITY AND BY BUDGET CATEGORY, NEITHER OF WHICH HAS MUCH RELEVANCE TO THE REAL BUDGETING PROCESS WHICH AUSTRALIAN E/C OFFICERS GO THROUGH SUBSEQUENTLY.

5. THIS IS SO IN PART BECAUSE WASHINGTON DOES NOT PROVIDE FUNDS TO EMBASSY ON BASIS OF SECTION VI. THERE IS INSTEAD A GENERAL ALLOCATION TO THE POST, OUT OF WHICH FUNDS FOR E/C ACTIVITIES COME. CATEGORIES USED FOR THIS GENERAL ALLOCATION DIFFER FROM THOSE IN CCP DOCUMENT.

6. BECAUSE OF EXCELLENT COOPERATION OF EMBASSY ADMIN SECTION, FORMER E/C COUNSELOR WAS ABLE TO DEVELOP EMBASSY'S PRESENT SYSTEM WHEREBY FUNDS ARE RESERVED AT POST FOR E/C ACTIVITIES ON BASIS OF WORKING BUDGET WHICH E/C SECTION DRAWS UP. CATEGORIES USED ARE TRAVEL, NEWSLETTER, LIBRARY, AND CONTRACT SERVICES, BROKEN DOWN BETWEEN GENERAL E/C EXPENDITURES AND CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURES CAMPAIGN-BY-CAMPAIGN.

7. IF FUNDS WERE DESIGNATED BY WASHINGTON IN RESPONSE TO SECTION UNCLASSIFIED

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VI OF CCP, EMBASSY WOULD SEE MERIT IN CONTINUING TO PREPARE IT. INASMUCH AS THEY ARE NOT, EMBASSY WOULD SUGGEST DROPPING THIS SECTION AND EXPLICITLY LEAVING IT TO EACH EMBASSY TO WORK OUT INTERNAL FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS. AT THE VERY LEAST, CATEGORIES TESTED AND PROVEN IN POST'S WORKING BUDGET SHOULD BE THOSE USED FOR CCP DOCUMENT.

8. FINAL SUGGESTION RELATES TO PHILOSOPHICAL CONCEPT OF CCP. WHILE EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS AND SYMPATHIZES WITH REASONS FOR WASHINGTON WISHING TO REGARD CCP AS A CONTRACT, A CONTRACT BY ITS NATURE MUST BE CORRECT DOWN TO THE LAST JOT AND TITTLE. IN AN EVOLVING SITUATION, THIS CARRIES THE INHERENT RISK THAT THE CONTRACT WILL NEVER REACH FINAL FORM, OR THAT IT WILL BE IMPOSSIBLY RIGID. EMBASSY WOULD LIKE TO SUGGEST THAT IT MIGHT BE PREFERABLE TO REGARD CCP AS A STATEMENT FOR A GIVEN POINT IN TIME AS TO HOW E/C OFFICERS ENVISION UTILIZING THEIR DISCRETIONARY OR CREATIVE TIME. ON BOTH SIDES OF THE WATER, OUR PRIMARY INTEREST IS IN PROMOTING U.S. ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL INTERESTS, WITH MAJOR EMPHASIS ON EXPORTS, AND FOR THIS WE NEED A COHERENT, THOUGHT-OUT PROGRAM. IF THIS PROGRAM, IN FORM OF CCP CAMPAIGNS, CAN BE PUT INTO FINISHED DOCUMENT AT AN EARLY POINT IN PROCEEDINGS, IT IS THEN AVAILABLE TO SERVE ITS FUNCTION AS A FRAMEWORK

AND REFERENCE TOOL. FACT THAT DOCUMENT WOULD NOT BE CAST IN
CONCRETE AS WOULD A CONTRACT NEED NOT BE A HANDICAP AND IN FACT
SHOULD BE AN ADVANTAGE INASMUCH AS ALL ARE PURSUING THE SAME
GOALS.
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